Filing Date: February 22, 2002

Title: AUTOMATED INFORMATION DISCLOSURE SYSTEM

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) In a patent application manager system maintaining a database of references, a method comprising:

entering reference data in a database for a first patent application;

copying the reference data to a database for a second patent application, where the second patent application is related to the first patent application;

automatically creating a docket entry in a docketing database using the application manager system, wherein the docket entry indicates that references have been entered for the second patent application and [[a]] may need to be cited to a patent office; and generating a viewable docket including the docket entry.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprises automatically creating an information disclosure statement including the reference data.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the viewable docket is a hard copy.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the viewable docket is electronic and viewable on a screen.
- 5. (Original) A patent management system comprising:
 - a docket database to maintain due dates for patent application tasks;
 - a reference database to maintain reference data for patent applications; and
- an application manager to copy reference data from a first patent application to a second related application, the application manager automatically generates a docket entry in the docket database for the second application.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

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6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 further wherein the application manager emprises automatically ereating creates an information disclosure statement including the reference data.

7. (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium comprising:

machine readable code to instruct a processor to copy reference data for a first patent application to a database for a second patent application, where the second patent application is related to the first patent application;

machine readable code to instruct a processor to automatically create a docket entry in a docketing database using the application manager system, wherein the docket entry indicates that references have been entered for the second patent application and [[a]] may need to be cited to a patent office.

8. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 7 further comprising machine readable code to instruct a processor to generate a viewable docket including the docket entry.